

November 2024

Dear Neighbors,

The Long Hill Township Public Library is where our community gathers to read, learn, and play. More than just a place to borrow books, the library is where we watch movies, learn to line dance, speak Italian, work on jigsaw puzzles, and occasionally even enjoy some ice cream!

Our library builds community and fosters connections. Each week, the events calendar is packed with knitting clubs and job-search seminars, Lego clubs and writer's groups, art classes and teen book clubs, and toddler story times and family game nights.

The library's programs and services extend even beyond the building. This past year, librarians held story times at Stirling Lake, made weekly book deliveries to Lounsberry Meadow seniors, held a children's field trip to The Raptor Trust, and hosted Silent Book Club at businesses around town.

All this, and our library is still growing! The kids' summer reading program saw an 18% rise in participation, and overall circulation is at its highest level in five years. The "Library of Things" grew to include a Nintendo Switch, e-readers, lawn games, hotspots, binoculars, museum passes, and more—all available for free!

E-book circulation is also growing rapidly, thanks to services like Libby, Hoopla, and Kanopy. But did you know that an e-book or e-audiobook costs the library approximately four times the price of a physical copy of the same book? And unlike the physical copies, e-books are only temporarily licensed, often for as few as 20 check-outs. Your generous gifts to the Library Foundation make it possible for the library to meet the high demand for digital materials.

This year we hope to raise at least \$24,000 to help the library defray rising costs and continue to offer these popular programs and services. Will you help us meet our goal with a tax-deductible contribution? Your gift to the Library Foundation is more than a donation—it's an investment in the future of our entire community.

We are grateful for your generosity and support!

Sincerely,

Heather Gillis

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President, Long Hill Township Public Library Foundation

The very
existence of libraries
affords the best evidence
that we may yet have hope
for the future of man.

-T.S. Eliot







Foundation and Friends of the Long Hill Township Public Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is made up of two groups.

The **Friends** conduct regular events and activities to raise money for immediate needs such as programs, materials, and projects.

The **Foundation** generally conducts one annual appeal with a two-pronged goal of:

- **1.** building an endowment to ensure the long-term financial health of the library and to support future large-scale capital expenditures
- **2.** annually donating a portion of our funds to the library to support current programs

Drop your donation at the library, mail using the enclosed envelope, or scan the QR code to donate through Venmo.

Don't forget to take advantage of matching gift programs!